

APPEAL NO. 040360  
FILED APRIL 9, 2004

This appeal arises pursuant to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, TEX. LAB. CODE ANN. § 401.001 *et seq.* (1989 Act). A contested case hearing was held on January 29, 2004. The hearing officer resolved the disputed issue by deciding that the respondent's (claimant) compensable injury of \_\_\_\_\_, includes the right middle digit trigger finger. The appellant (carrier) appeals, contending that the hearing officer's decision is not supported by the credible evidence. No response was received from the claimant.

DECISION

Affirmed.

It is undisputed that the claimant sustained a compensable injury on \_\_\_\_\_. The disputed issue, on which the claimant had the burden of proof, was whether the compensable injury includes the right middle digit trigger finger. Conflicting evidence was presented on the disputed issue. The hearing officer is the sole judge of the weight and credibility of the evidence. Section 410.165(a). As the finder of fact, the hearing officer resolves the conflicts in the evidence and determines what facts have been established. In Western Casualty and Surety Company v. Gonzalez, 518 S.W.2d 524, 526 (Tex. 1975), the court noted that the site of the trauma and its immediate effects are not necessarily determinative of the nature and extent of the compensable injury and that the full consequences of the original injury, together with the effects of its treatment, upon the general health and body of the worker are to be considered. Although there is conflicting evidence in this case, we conclude that the hearing officer's decision is supported by sufficient evidence and that it is not so against the great weight and preponderance of the evidence as to be clearly wrong and unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175 (Tex. 1986).

We affirm the hearing officer's decision and order.

The true corporate name of the insurance carrier is **ST. PAUL INSURANCE COMPANY** and the name and address of its registered agent for service of process is

**CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY  
701 BRAZOS, SUITE 1050  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701.**

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Robert W. Potts  
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

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Elaine M. Chaney  
Appeals Judge

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Veronica L. Ruberto  
Appeals Judge